

## SENATE BILL No. 62

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### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** None (noncode).

**Synopsis:** Commission on abused and neglected children. Establishes a commission on abused and neglected children and their families to develop a plan of services for children at risk of abuse or neglect and for abused or neglected children and their families. Requires a report not later than August 15, 2004. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the board for the coordination of child care regulation.)

**Effective:** July 1, 2003.

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January 7, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Provider Services.

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First Regular Session 113th General Assembly (2003)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2002 Regular or Special Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 62

A BILL FOR AN ACT concerning human services.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1       SECTION 1. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2003] (a) As used in this  
2       SECTION, "commission" refers to the commission on abused and  
3       neglected children and their families established by subsection (b).

4       (b) The commission on abused and neglected children and their  
5       families is established to develop and present an implementation  
6       plan for a continuum of services for children at risk of abuse or  
7       neglect and children who have been abused or neglected and their  
8       families.

9       (c) The commission consists of the following members appointed  
10      not later than August 15, 2003:

11      (1) Twenty-two (22) members appointed by the governor:

12      (A) One (1) prosecuting attorney or a deputy prosecuting  
13      attorney.

14      (B) One (1) attorney who specializes in juvenile law.

15      (C) One (1) representative from law enforcement.

16      (D) Two (2) children's advocates.

17      (E) One (1) guardian ad litem or court appointed special  
18      advocate.



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- 1 (F) One (1) juvenile court judge.
- 2 (G) One (1) public agency children's services caseworker.
- 3 (H) One (1) private agency children's services caseworker.
- 4 (I) One (1) representative from the division of family and
- 5 children.
- 6 (J) One (1) counselor or social worker from Indiana's "at
- 7 risk" school program.
- 8 (K) One (1) pediatrician.
- 9 (L) One (1) licensed social worker.
- 10 (M) Two (2) faculty members, including:
- 11 (i) one (1) faculty member from an Indiana accredited
- 12 graduate school of social work who shall serve as the
- 13 chairperson of the commission; and
- 14 (ii) one (1) faculty member from an Indiana accredited
- 15 undergraduate school of social work.
- 16 (N) One (1) county director to be appointed from the
- 17 Indiana State Association of County Welfare
- 18 Administrators.
- 19 (O) One (1) foster parent who is a member of a foster
- 20 advocacy organization.
- 21 (P) One (1) adoptive parent who is a member of an
- 22 adoptive parent advocacy organization.
- 23 (Q) One (1) nonprofit family services agency provider.
- 24 (R) One (1) representative of child caring institution
- 25 providers.
- 26 (S) One (1) psychologist who works with abused and
- 27 neglected children.
- 28 (T) One (1) individual who has experience and training in
- 29 juvenile fire setting identification and intervention.
- 30 (2) Two (2) nonvoting members of the house of
- 31 representatives, not more than one (1) of whom may be from
- 32 one (1) political party, appointed by the speaker of the house
- 33 of representatives.
- 34 (3) Two (2) nonvoting members of the senate, not more than
- 35 one (1) of whom may represent one (1) political party,
- 36 appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate.
- 37 Vacancies shall be filled by the appointing authority for the
- 38 remainder of the unexpired term.
- 39 (d) Each member of the commission shall have an interest or
- 40 experience in improving the quality of services provided to
- 41 children at risk of abuse or neglect and abused or neglected
- 42 children and their families in Indiana.

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(e) A majority of the voting members of the commission constitutes a quorum.

(f) The Indiana accredited graduate school of social work represented by the chairperson of the commission shall staff the commission.

(g) The commission shall meet at the call of the chairperson and shall meet as often as necessary to carry out the purpose of this SECTION.

(h) The expenses of administering the commission shall be paid from the resources of the Indiana accredited graduate school of social work represented by the chairperson of the commission. Expenses under this subsection include the following:

(1) Photocopying and printing costs.

(2) Costs of supplies.

(i) Each member of the commission who is not a state employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is also entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties as provided in the state policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

(j) Each member of the commission who is a state employee but who is not a member of the general assembly is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties as provided in the state policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

(k) Each member of the commission who is a member of the general assembly is entitled to receive the same per diem, mileage, and travel allowances paid to legislative members of interim study committees established by the legislative council. Per diem, mileage, and travel allowances paid under this subsection shall be paid from appropriations made to the legislative council or the legislative services agency.

(l) The commission's responsibilities include the following:

(1) Reviewing Indiana's public and private family services delivery system for children at risk of abuse or neglect and for children who have been reported as suspected victims of child abuse or neglect.

(2) Reviewing federal, state, and local funds appropriated to

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meet the service needs of children and their families.

(3) Reviewing current best practices standards for the provision of child and family services.

(4) Examining the qualifications and training of service providers, including foster parents, adoptive parents, child caring institution staff, child placing agency staff, case managers, supervisors, and administrators, and making recommendations for a training curriculum and other necessary changes.

(5) Recommending methods to improve use of available public and private funds to address the service needs described in subdivision (1).

(6) Providing information concerning identified unmet needs of children and families and providing recommendations concerning the development of resources to meet the identified needs.

(7) Suggesting policy, program, and legislative changes related to the family services described in subdivision (1) to accomplish the following:

(A) Enhancement of the quality of the services.

(B) Identification of potential resources to promote change to enhance the services.

(8) Preparing a report consisting of the commission's findings and recommendations, and the presentation of the implementation plan for a continuum of services for children at risk of abuse or neglect and for abused or neglected children and their families specified under subsection (b).

(m) In carrying out the commission's responsibilities, the commission shall consider pertinent studies on children at risk of abuse or neglect and on abused or neglected children and their families.

(n) The affirmative votes of a majority of a quorum of the commission's voting members are required for the commission to take action on any measure, including recommendations included in the report required under subsection (l)(8).

(o) The commission shall submit the report required under subsection (l)(8) to the governor, the legislative council, and the board for the coordination of child care regulation established by IC 12-17.2-3.1-1 not later than August 15, 2004. The report must be available to the public upon request not later than December 31, 2004.

(p) This SECTION expires December 31, 2004.

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